

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Atlantis, Discovery making gains in launch preparations



KSC Bond Drive still going – don't delay enrollment



▲ **Shuttle Updates:** **Atlantis** has been mated with its external tank and solid rocket boosters in the VAB and is expected to roll out to Launch Pad 39B no earlier than Monday, June 11. Launch is scheduled no earlier than July 2, at 9:02 a.m. EDT.

Discovery will be transferred from OPF bay 2 to the VAB early next week for mating with its external tank and solid rocket boosters. Its payload for mission STS-105 is the Multi-Purpose Logistics Module Leonardo. Experiment and supply rack installations are complete. Leak checks and heater testing are underway. STS-105 will also carry the Expedition 3 crew to the International Space Station and return to Earth the Expedition 2 crew.

In OPF bay 1, **Endeavour** is undergoing checks of its power reactant storage and distribution system, plus testing of the main engine thrust vector control system. The orbiter will carry the MPLM Raffaello on its flight to the Space Station, scheduled for launch Nov. 29, as well as the Expedition 4 crew (returning Expedition 3).

Columbia is in OPF bay 3, where it is undergoing subsystem testing. Its mission, STS-109, is a servicing mission for the Hubble Space Telescope. Launch is scheduled for Jan. 17, 2002.

▲ **Savings Bond Drive** -- The U.S. Savings Bonds campaign for federal employees is going on now. This year, there are two options to grow your savings

while still avoiding risk. In addition to the Series EE Savings Bonds available, you can choose to take the new inflation-protected I-bonds. Your money can now be immune from inflation while still earning competitive interest rates. For more information, contact your Savings Bond canvasser today. Need to know who your canvasser is? Contact Claudette Beggs at 867-7009.

◆ **Mark your calendars** for July 19, 2001, when KSC will celebrate *Take Our Children to Work Day*. This is the ninth year the Center has opened its doors for the children of KSC employees to participate in this worthwhile day of recognition. Watch future issues of *KSC Countdown* for more details.

◆ **Did You Know?** Just a few days into the new hurricane season, Tropical Depression Allison already battered Louisiana, Arkansas and East Texas, dropping as much as 12 inches in places. The prediction for 2001 is 10 named storms, six hurricanes and two major storms. If KSC is closed due to a hurricane, employees can learn when to return to work by listening to local radio and television stations. In addition, the same information will be available on the Hurricane Information Hotline, 861-7900. For more information about hurricanes and tropical storms, contact the Emergency Preparedness Office, 863-6861 or 867-8723. ★



KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2001/2001.htm>